Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

World Health Organization

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



CCNFSDU45 - PWG

Foods for Older Infants and Young Children (AT STEP 4)

Languages: English, French, Spanish

1 November 2026
10.00 – 13:00 (CET)

Physical Working Group (PWG)

1. Background

At the 44th session of the CCNFSDU (CCNFSDU44), the United States presented a new work proposal to develop a standard for foods for older infants and young children, aimed at replacing the Standard for *Canned Baby Foods* (CXS 73-1981) and *Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young children* (CXS 74-1981). During the Physical Working group (PWG) on new work, the PWG ranked this proposal as the Committee's top priority. Based on recommendations, the project document was revised to remove the term "complementary foods" from the title and replace it with "foods" to ensure the work would encompass the foods in the two standards to be replaced.

At CCNFSDU44, the Committee agreed to focus the scope of the new draft standard on revising and updating the two standards on baby foods and processed cereal-based foods for older infants and young children (CXS 73-1981 and CXS 74-1981). The Committee also noted the comments of two Members on ensuring clarity of the title of the standard and of one Member suggesting that the new draft standard should include foods for infants during the weaning period.

CCNFSDU44 forwarded the project document to CAC47 for approval as new work and established this EWG to prepare the proposed draft standard for consideration at CCNFSDU45.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EWG

At CCNFSDU44, the Committee agreed to:

- Forward the project document to CAC47 for approval as new work;
- Establish an EWG, chaired by the USA and co-chaired by EU, Kenya, and Panama, to prepare the proposed draft standard for circulation for comments at Step 3 and consideration at CCNFSDU45; and
- Keep open the possibility of a PWG to meet prior to CCNFSDU45.

2. Objectives

The PWG will:

- Provide a brief summary on the work of the EWG, as outlined in the Agenda Paper (CX/NFSDU 26/45/5).
- Progress discussions on the guiding principles, preamble, scope, description, and structure of the standard for FFOIYC, considering comments submitted in reply to CL 2026/47-NFSDU. CX/NFSDU 26/45/5 Add.1
- Develop Recommendations for the committee on guiding principles, preamble, revised scope, description including definitions, and structure for the standard.



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3. Documents for this Physical Working Group

- Conference Room Document CRD03. Updated Agenda Paper based on CL Comments.
- Comments in reply to CL 2026/47-NFSDU. CX/NFSDU 26/45/5 Add.1

See CCNFSDU45 webpage for Spanish and French translations.
The following documents will be used for reference and background:

- Agenda Paper Draft Standard for Foods for Older Infants and Young Children (at Step 4) CX/NFSDU 26/45/5
- Circular Letter CL 2026/47-NFSDU
- WHO Regional Office for Europe. (2022). Nutrient and promotion profile model: Supporting appropriate promotion of food products for infants and young children 6–36 months in the WHO European Region
- UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office et al. (2023). Consortium for Improving Complementary Foods in Southeast Asia (COMMIT) – Compendium of international standards and guidelines for the improved composition and
- labelling of commercially produced complementary foods in Southeast Asia.
- UNICEF First Foods Initiative-Compliance of The Nutritional Composition and Labelling of Commercialized Complementary Foods for Infants and Young Children (6-35 Months) and Recommended Standards for West Africa Based on a Collection of Evidence, First Foods 2024.
- WHO Guideline for complementary feeding of infants and young children 6–23 months of age

4. Draft programme

Time	Session	
10:00 - 10:10	Welcome and Introductions. PWG Agenda and outline of procedures for feedback and discussion.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
10:10 - 10:25	Presentation on background, summary of 2 EWG consultations.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
10:25 – 11:10	Presentation of general principles for updating the standard for FFOIYC). **Feedback and discussion**.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
11:10 – 11:30	Presentation of preamble and scope. **Feedback and discussion**.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
11:30 – 12:00	Break	
12:00 – 12:30	Presentation of description/definitions. **Feedback and discussion**.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
12:30 – 12:50	Presentation of structure of the standard. **Feedback and discussion**.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine
12:50 – 13:00	Conclusions and next steps.	EWG Chair, Dr. Douglas Balentine